

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI



JIM HOOD
ATTORNEY GENERAL

May 11, 2010

Mr. John E. (Jack) Lynch Jr.
Global Exploration and Production
Global Supply and Trading
US General Counsel
501 WestLake Park Boulevard
Houston, TX 77079

Re: Request for Additional Assurances

Dear Mr. Lynch:

Thank you for your prompt letter of May 10, 2010, in response to the joint letter from the Gulf Coast Attorneys General dated May 5, 2010. In it, you state that BP will not raise the caps under the Oil Pollution Act against individuals or states and that no claimant against the BP fund will waive its right to file or join a suit later. If my interpretation of your letter is not correct, please send me a letter or email advising me otherwise.

As a veteran of the insurance litigation after Katrina, I learned it is in everyone's interest that claims be paid quickly through a transparent claims process with no caps and no waivers. As I told you during our meeting, the people affected by the oil disaster will be looking to their attorneys general to assess the fairness of the BP claims process. During our meeting I explained that I would need more information and written assurances before I try to explain the BP claims process to our citizens.

In order for me to fully embrace the BP claims process and recommend it to the affected Mississippians, I must have written commitments from BP that it will do the following: (1) establish a website with a link on BP's homepage on which claimants may file claims electronically; (2) accept an independent monitor of the claims process; (3) provide my office with a claims manual describing the claims process with same being made available on your website and at your claims centers; (4) assure that any waivers signed by claimants or boat owners are effectively revoked, and submit to me a list of all of the claimants in Mississippi who signed these waivers and their contact information; and (5) disclose to me the maximum number of barrels per day that the well is capable of emitting.


As I explained to you in our meeting, any assertion by BP of federal preemption of potential state claims or removal by BP to federal court and consolidation of these claims would be viewed with disdain by the states. Consequently, the final assurance I need before agreeing to endorse the BP claims process is BP's written agreement that it will not assert

federal preemption and will not remove to federal court or attempt to consolidate claims asserted by the states.

Pursuant to your request, I hereby designate my assistant, Melanie Webb, to receive the daily updates for the State of Mississippi on the claims handling process. Please email daily the number of claims pending, the type of claims, how many have been paid, and the total amount of payments to date for each affected state to mwebb@ago.state.ms.us.

Please let me know when I can expect a response from you regarding these critical questions. I look forward to hearing from you and to working with BP to ensure that all individuals, private companies, and governmental entities are fully compensated for all losses associated with this event.

Sincerely yours,



Jim Hood
Attorney General